IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS NORTHERN DIVISION

ZEBORAH C. WALSBERG

PLAINTIFF

v. Case No

Case No: 3:20-cv-00012-KGB

REGIONS, et al.

DEFENDANTS

ORDER

Before the Court is plaintiff Zeborah C. Walsberg's *pro se* motion for leave to proceed *in* forma pauperis (Dkt. No. 1). For the following reasons, the Court denies this motion (*Id.*).

Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915, the decision to grant or deny *in forma pauperis* status is within the sound discretion of the district court. *Cross v. Gen. Motors Corp.*, 721 F.2d 1152, 1157 (8th Cir. 1983) (citations omitted). Although a claimant need not be "completely destitute" to take advantage of the *in forma pauperis* statute, he or she must show that paying the filing fee would result in an undue financial hardship. *In re Williamson*, 786 F.2d 1336, 1338 (8th Cir. 1986). In her application, Ms. Walsberg states that she receives \$1,214.00 monthly from social security, has \$13.00 between her checking and savings accounts, and owns an automobile valued at \$14,000.00 (*Id.*, at 1-2). Thus, the Court estimates Ms. Walsberg's annual income as \$14,568.00. Ms. Walsberg lists recurring monthly expenses in the amount of \$569.00 (*Id.*, at 2). Ms. Walsberg claims no dependents, debts, or financial obligations (*Id.*).

Based upon her representation that her future income will amount to \$1,214.00 per month with \$569.00 in monthly expenses and that she owns an automobile worth \$14,000.00, it appears that Ms. Walsberg has the ability to pay the filing fee without suffering an undue hardship. Accordingly, Ms. Walsberg's application to proceed *in forma pauperis* is denied without prejudice, subject to refiling (Dkt. No. 1). Within 30 days of the entry of this Order, Ms. Walsberg must

either: (1) pay the \$400.00 filing fee in full or (2) file an amended application to proceed *in forma pauperis* that clearly describes Ms. Walsberg's financial situation for the Court's review and consideration, if Ms. Walsberg believes that her current pending *in forma pauperis* application fails to describe clearly her entire financial situation. If Ms. Walsberg does not pay the filing fee or file an amended *in forma pauperis* application within 30 days, this action will be dismissed without prejudice. Ms. Walsberg's failure to comply with this Order could result in the dismissal of her lawsuit. *See* Local Rule 5.5 of the Local Rules of the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas ("If any communication from the Court to a *pro se* plaintiff is not responded to within thirty (30) days, the case may be dismissed without prejudice. Any party proceeding *pro se* shall be expected to be familiar with and follow the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.").

It is so ordered, this 14th day of April 2020.

Kristine G. Baker

United States District Judge

ustin G. Praker